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U.S. Government Estimates of Quarterly Revenue for Selected Services

Intention to Expand Coverage: Quarterly service estimates will expand to cover hospitals, and nursing and residential care facilities in the first quarter of 2005.

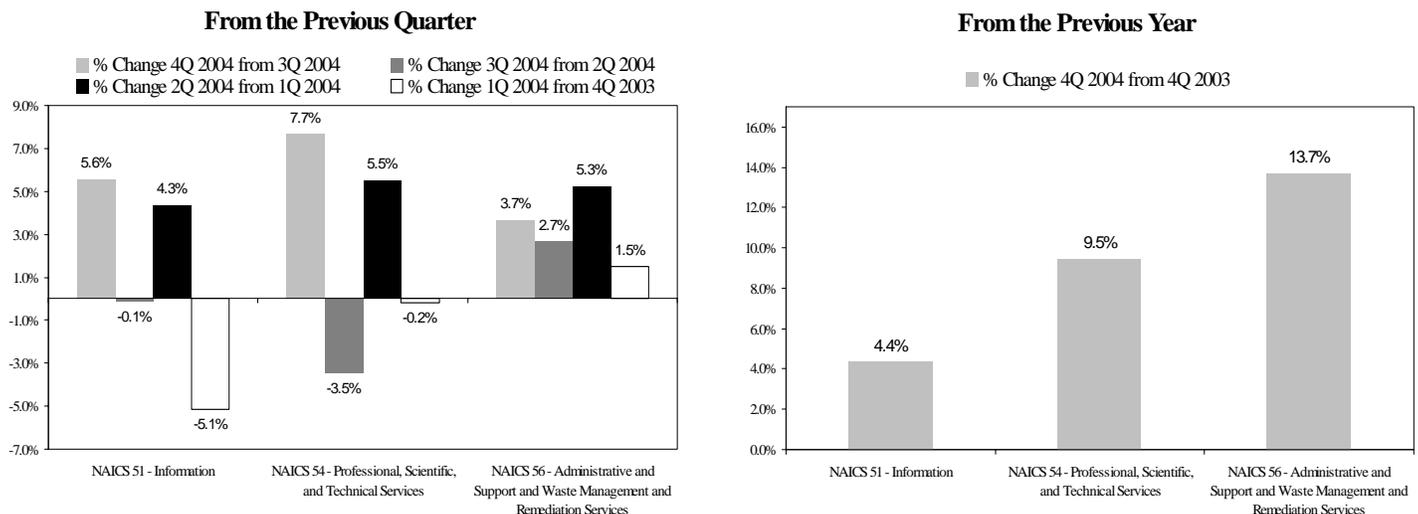
Information The Department of Commerce's Census Bureau announced today that the estimate of U.S. information sector revenue for the fourth calendar quarter of 2004, not adjusted for seasonal variation, holiday or trading-day differences, or price changes, was \$238.2 billion, an increase of 5.6 percent ($\pm 0.3\%$) from the third quarter of 2004 and up 4.4 percent ($\pm 1.2\%$) from the fourth quarter of 2003. The second to third quarter percent change was revised from -0.4 percent ($\pm 0.3\%$) to -0.1 percent ($\pm 0.3\%$)*. The telecommunications industry estimate was \$87.8 billion, an increase of 0.5 percent ($\pm 0.3\%$) from the third quarter of 2004 and up 2.9 percent ($\pm 0.8\%$) from the fourth quarter of 2003. The publishing subsector estimate was \$64.9 billion, an increase of 9.0 percent ($\pm 0.8\%$) from the third quarter of 2004 and up 3.1 percent ($\pm 1.7\%$) from the fourth quarter of 2003.

Professional, scientific, and technical services The estimate of U.S. professional, scientific, and technical services revenue for the fourth quarter of 2004, not adjusted for seasonal variation, holiday or trading-day differences, or price changes, was \$251.5 billion, an increase of 7.7 percent ($\pm 1.5\%$) from the third quarter of 2004 and up 9.5 percent ($\pm 2.3\%$) from the fourth quarter of 2003. The second to third quarter percent change was revised from -3.2 percent ($\pm 1.0\%$) to -3.5 percent ($\pm 1.0\%$). The architectural, engineering, and related services industry estimate was \$55.4 billion, an increase of 5.2 percent ($\pm 2.5\%$) from the third quarter of 2004 and up 13.8 percent ($\pm 3.1\%$) from the fourth quarter of 2003.

Administrative and support and waste management and remediation services The estimate of U.S. administrative and support and waste management and remediation services revenue for the fourth quarter of 2004, not adjusted for seasonal variation, holiday or trading-day differences, or price changes, was \$128.9 billion, an increase of 3.7 percent ($\pm 1.0\%$) from the third quarter of 2004 and up 13.7 percent ($\pm 3.0\%$) from the fourth quarter of 2003. The second to third quarter percent change was revised from +2.9 percent ($\pm 1.7\%$) to +2.7 percent ($\pm 1.7\%$). The employment services industry estimate was \$36.3 billion, an increase of 5.1 percent ($\pm 3.0\%$) from the third quarter of 2004 and up 17.0 percent ($\pm 6.9\%$) from the fourth quarter of 2003.

For survey description and an explanation of the measures of sampling variability included in this report, please see the last page of this publication.

Quarterly Percent Change in Revenue for Selected Services



First quarter 2005 revenue is scheduled to be released on June 15, 2005, at 10:00 a.m. EST

This report is available on the day of issue through the Department of Commerce's STAT-USA Website; for more information, call (202) 482-1986.

* The 90 percent confidence interval includes zero. The Census Bureau does not have sufficient statistical evidence to conclude that the actual change is different from zero.

Our internet site is <http://www.census.gov/qss>

Table 1. Selected Services - Estimated Revenue for Employer Firms

[Estimates have not been adjusted for seasonal variation, holiday or trading-day differences, or price changes. Estimates are based on data from the Quarterly Services Survey]

NAICS code ¹	Kind of business	Total revenue (millions of dollars)					Percent change					
		2004 Year-to- date total	4Q 2004 (p)	3Q 2004 (r)	2Q 2004	1Q 2004	4Q 2003	4Q 2004 from 3Q 2004 (p)	3Q 2004 from 2Q 2004 (r)	2Q 2004 from 1Q 2004	1Q 2004 from 4Q 2003	4Q 2004 from 4Q 2003 (p)
51	Information	906,061	238,160	225,588	225,858	216,455	228,197	5.6	-0.1	4.3	-5.1	4.4
511	Publishing industries	239,154	64,947	59,563	58,580	56,064	63,007	9.0	1.7	4.5	-11.0	3.1
51111	Newspaper publishers	50,823	13,510	12,463	12,757	12,093	12,999	8.4	-2.3	5.5	-7.0	3.9
51112	Periodical publishers	36,844	9,804	9,543	9,308	8,189	9,052	2.7	2.5	13.7	-9.5	8.3
5111 pt	Book, database and directory, and other publishers ²	55,392	14,728	14,371	13,371	12,922	14,418	2.5	7.5	3.5	-10.4	2.2
5112	Software publishers	96,095	26,905	23,186	23,144	22,860	26,538	16.0	0.2	1.2	-13.9	1.4
512	Motion picture and sound recording industries	71,319	20,058	16,012	18,074	17,175	20,480	25.3	-11.4	5.2	-16.1	-2.1
513	Broadcasting and telecommunications	510,788	131,289	128,829	127,865	122,805	123,189	1.9	0.8	4.1	-0.3	6.6
5131	Radio and television broadcasting	60,399	16,191	15,205	15,701	13,302	14,176	6.5	-3.2	18.0	-6.2	14.2
5132	Cable networks and program distribution	103,783	27,265	26,242	25,802	24,474	23,617	3.9	1.7	5.4	3.6	15.4
5133	Telecommunications	346,606	87,833	87,382	86,362	85,029	85,396	0.5	1.2	1.6	-0.4	2.9
51331	Wired telecommunications carriers	207,677	51,586	51,484	52,066	52,541	53,237	0.2	-1.1	-0.9	-1.3	-3.1
51332	Wireless telecommunications carriers (except satellite)	120,971	31,631	31,367	29,759	28,214	27,708	0.8	5.4	5.5	1.8	14.2
5133 pt	Other telecommunications ³	17,958	4,616	4,531	4,537	4,274	4,451	1.9	-0.1	6.2	-4.0	3.7
514	Information services and data processing services	84,800	21,866	21,184	21,339	20,411	21,521	3.2	-0.7	4.5	-5.2	1.6
5141	Information services	33,389	8,916	8,281	8,272	7,920	7,938	7.7	0.1	4.4	-0.2	12.3
5142	Data processing services	51,411	12,950	12,903	13,067	12,491	13,583	0.4	-1.3	4.6	-8.0	-4.7
54	Professional, scientific, and technical services ⁴	956,394	251,504	233,571	241,999	229,320	229,739	7.7	-3.5	5.5	-0.2	9.5
5412	Accounting, tax preparation, bookkeeping, and payroll services	92,205	21,078	19,990	23,572	27,565	21,727	5.4	-15.2	-14.5	26.9	-3.0
5413	Architectural, engineering, and related services ⁵	216,114	55,373	52,645	56,991	51,105	48,637	5.2	-7.6	11.5	5.1	13.8
5415	Computer systems design and related services	180,747	46,033	45,066	44,681	44,967	44,254	2.1	0.9	-0.6	1.6	4.0
5416	Management, scientific, and technical consulting services	119,331	31,539	29,962	30,199	27,631	27,630	5.3	-0.8	9.3	Z	14.1
5418	Advertising and related services	69,859	19,145	17,311	17,196	16,207	17,053	10.6	0.7	6.1	-5.0	12.3
541 pt	Other professional, scientific, and technical services ⁶	278,138	78,336	68,597	69,360	61,845	70,438	14.2	-1.1	12.2	-12.2	11.2
56	Administrative and support and waste management and remediation services ⁷	489,493	128,913	124,355	121,139	115,086	113,368	3.7	2.7	5.3	1.5	13.7
561	Administrative and support services ⁷	436,675	114,809	110,347	108,415	103,104	101,048	4.0	1.8	5.2	2.0	13.6
5613	Employment services	134,982	36,334	34,560	33,583	30,505	31,059	5.1	2.9	10.1	-1.8	17.0
5615	Travel arrangement and reservation services	27,120	6,803	6,822	7,157	6,338	6,008	-0.3	-4.7	12.9	5.5	13.2
561 pt	Other administrative and support services ⁸	274,573	71,672	68,965	67,675	66,261	63,981	3.9	1.9	2.1	3.6	12.0
562	Waste management and remediation services	52,818	14,104	14,008	12,724	11,982	12,320	0.7	10.1	6.2	-2.7	14.5

(p) Preliminary estimate. (r) Revised estimate. Z Less than .05 percent.

(1) For a full description of the NAICS codes used in this table, see www.census.gov/epcd/www/naics.html.

(2) Includes NAICS 51113 (book publishers), 51114 (database and directory publishers), and 51119 (other publishers).

(3) Includes NAICS 51333 (telecommunications resellers), 51334 (satellite telecommunications), and 51339 (other telecommunications).

(4) Excludes NAICS 54112 (offices of notaries), 54132 (landscape architectural services), and 54194 (veterinary services).

(5) Excludes NAICS 54132 (landscape architectural services).

(6) Includes NAICS 5411 (legal services except NAICS 54112 (offices of notaries)), 5414 (specialized design services), 5417 (scientific research and development services), and 5419 (other professional, scientific, and technical services except NAICS 54194 (veterinary services)).

(7) Excludes NAICS 56173 (landscaping services).

(8) Includes NAICS 5611 (office administrative services), 5612 (facilities support services), 5614 (business support services), 5616 (investigation and security services), 5617 (services to buildings and dwellings except NAICS 56173 (landscaping services)), and 5619 (other support services).

Note: Sector totals and subsector totals may include data for kinds of business not shown. Table 2 provides estimated measures of sampling variability. Data users who create their own estimates using data from this report should cite the U.S. Census Bureau as the source of the original data only. Additional information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, sample design, and definitions may be found at www.census.gov/svsd/www/qsrreliability.html.

Table 2. Selected Services - Estimated Measures of Sampling Variability

[Estimates are shown as percents and are based on data from the Quarterly Services Survey]

NAICS code	Kind of business	Coefficient of variation for total revenue						Standard error for percent change				
		2004	4Q	3Q	2Q	1Q	4Q	4Q2004	3Q2004	2Q2004	1Q2004	4Q 2004
		Year-to-date total	2004 (p)	2004 (r)	2004	2004	2003	from 3Q 2004 (p)	from 2Q 2004 (r)	from 1Q 2004	from 4Q 2003	from 4Q 2003 (p)
51	Information	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.5	0.7
511	Publishing industries	0.8	1.1	0.8	0.9	0.7	0.8	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.6	1.0
51111	Newspaper publishers	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.5
51112	Periodical publishers	1.6	1.7	2.0	1.7	1.3	1.2	0.8	0.7	0.8	1.0	1.6
5111 pt	Book, database and directory, and other publishers.....	2.3	2.9	2.0	2.9	3.1	2.6	1.7	2.0	2.3	1.7	1.9
5112	Software publishers	1.6	2.2	2.0	1.6	1.0	1.4	1.2	0.9	1.2	1.0	2.4
512	Motion picture and sound recording industries	2.2	2.5	2.1	3.0	3.6	3.0	3.5	1.7	3.6	2.2	3.4
513	Broadcasting and telecommunications	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.3
5131	Radio and television broadcasting	1.9	1.9	2.3	2.2	1.7	2.2	0.9	1.0	1.6	1.1	1.8
5132	Cable networks and program distribution	1.0	1.2	1.2	1.2	0.9	0.8	0.1	0.1	1.0	0.4	1.3
5133	Telecommunications	0.8	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.8	0.7	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.5
51331	Wired telecommunications carriers	1.3	1.4	1.4	1.3	1.2	1.1	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.6
51332	Wireless telecommunications carriers (except satellite)	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.1	0.2	0.1	Z	0.3
5133 pt	Other telecommunications.....	6.3	7.8	6.4	5.6	6.0	5.1	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.0	3.2
514	Information services and data processing services	1.6	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.4	2.7	0.5	0.3	0.6	1.8	2.0
5141	Information services	1.9	2.4	2.1	1.8	1.6	1.6	0.9	1.1	0.9	0.4	1.7
5142	Data processing services	2.2	2.5	2.6	2.2	1.7	3.8	0.5	0.6	0.9	2.5	3.2
54	Professional, scientific and technical services	1.3	1.7	1.4	1.3	1.2	1.3	0.9	0.6	1.0	0.8	1.4
5412	Accounting, tax preparation, bookkeeping, and payroll services	5.8	7.4	6.9	6.0	4.2	6.1	2.5	1.6	2.3	3.1	2.7
5413	Architectural, engineering, and related services	2.0	2.5	2.7	1.8	2.4	2.5	1.5	1.9	1.6	1.7	1.9
5415	Computer systems design and related services	2.8	3.1	3.2	2.8	2.6	2.3	1.3	1.2	1.1	1.6	1.8
5416	Management, scientific, and technical consulting services	2.8	3.4	3.2	2.9	2.7	2.7	1.9	1.1	2.5	1.3	2.6
5418	Advertising and related services	2.0	2.5	2.7	2.2	1.6	1.4	1.4	1.6	2.5	1.3	2.2
541 pt	Other professional, scientific, and technical services	1.7	2.4	2.0	2.2	2.0	2.4	2.2	2.1	2.9	2.0	3.1
56	Administrative and support and waste management and remediation services	2.1	2.5	2.6	2.0	1.4	1.2	0.6	1.0	1.0	0.7	1.8
561	Administrative and support services	2.2	2.6	2.7	2.1	1.6	1.5	0.9	1.0	1.0	0.8	1.9
5613	Employment services	5.8	6.9	6.4	5.5	5.1	3.9	1.8	2.1	1.9	1.9	4.2
5615	Travel arrangement and reservation services	6.0	5.9	7.2	6.5	5.3	5.7	2.9	1.8	4.1	1.6	4.0
561 pt	Other administrative and support services	1.4	1.9	1.6	1.5	1.1	1.4	1.1	1.0	0.9	1.1	1.6
562	Waste management and remediation services	3.5	3.6	3.5	4.0	4.3	3.6	1.3	2.3	2.6	1.5	2.6

(p) Preliminary estimate. (r) Revised estimate. Z Less than .05 percent.

Note: Additional information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, sample design, and definitions may be found at www.census.gov/svsd/www/qssreliability.html.

Survey Description

The U.S. Census Bureau conducts the Quarterly Services Survey (QSS) to provide national estimates of quarterly revenue for firms located in the United States and classified in selected service industries. The QSS sample includes firms classified in NAICS 51 (Information), NAICS 54 (Professional, scientific, and technical services), or NAICS 56 (Administrative and support and waste management and remediation services). Each quarter, questionnaires are mailed to a probability sample of approximately 5,000 employer firms selected from the larger Service Annual Survey (SAS) sample. The QSS sample includes firms of all sizes and is updated on a quarterly basis to account for new service businesses, deaths, and other changes to the survey universe. Data for nonresponding firms are imputed based on data for similar-sized firms classified in the same kind of business. For NAICS 51 (Information), imputed revenue amounts to about 11 percent of the total revenue estimate; for NAICS 54 (Professional, scientific, and technical services) imputed revenue amounts to about 26 percent; and for NAICS 56 (Administrative and support and waste management and remediation services) imputed revenue amounts to about 32 percent. Quarterly revenue estimates are obtained by summing weighted data (either reported or imputed). The weight for each unit is a product of two factors: the reciprocal of the probability of selecting the unit into the sample and a weight that adjusts the quarterly estimates using SAS results. Additional information on the QSS can be found on the Census Bureau website at: www.census.gov/qss.

Reliability of the Estimates

Because the estimates presented in this report are based on a sample survey, they may contain sampling error and nonsampling error.

Sampling error is the difference between an estimate and the result that would be obtained from a complete enumeration of the sampling frame conducted under the same survey conditions. This error occurs because only a subset of the entire sampling frame is measured in a sample survey. Standard errors and coefficients of variation, as given in Table 2 of this report, are estimated measures of sampling variability.

The first page of this release gives statements that compare sample survey estimates from two points in time. The corresponding change between each pair of estimates is accompanied by a number in parentheses, called the “margin of error.” This number can be used to construct a range about the change estimate which is a 90-percent confidence interval. If, for example, a particular change estimate is +1.2 percent and its associated margin of error is ± 1.5 percentage points, then the 90-percent confidence interval for the change estimate is -0.3 percent to +2.7 percent. If the interval contains zero, then one does not have sufficient evidence to conclude at the 90-percent confidence level that the change is different from zero. The margin of error is computed by multiplying the estimated standard error of the estimate, obtained from Table 2, by 1.65. For quarterly totals, the estimated coefficient of variation (CV) is given. For these estimates, the confidence interval is computed as (the estimated quarterly total) $\pm 1.65 \times CV \times$ (the estimated quarterly total). For any change estimate cited without a margin of error, the estimate has undergone statistical testing so that one may conclude, with 90-percent confidence, that the change estimate is different from zero. The Census Bureau recommends that individuals using estimates in this report incorporate the above information into their analyses, as sampling error could affect the conclusions drawn from the estimates.

Nonsampling error is the difference between the result that would be obtained from a complete enumeration of the sampling frame conducted under the same survey conditions and the population parameter of interest. Nonsampling error encompasses all other factors that contribute to the total error of a sample survey estimate. This type of error can occur because of nonresponse, insufficient coverage of the survey universe, mistakes in the recording and coding of data, model error, and other errors of collection, response, coverage, or processing. Though nonsampling error is not measured directly, the Census Bureau employs quality control procedures throughout the process to minimize this type of error.